



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

**Amendment**

LCO No. 4782

Offered by:

REP. COCCO, 127<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. STRATTON, 17<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. PRELLI, 63<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. COLLINS, 117<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5558

File No. 271

Cal. No. 234

**"An Act Concerning MTBE."**

1 In line 1, before "(NEW)", insert "Section 1."

2 After line 6, insert the following:

3 "Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) As used in this section, "MTBE" means the  
4 gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether.

5 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall, in  
6 conjunction with the Northeast Regional Fuels Task Force, develop  
7 and implement a plan for the phase-out of the use of MTBE in a  
8 manner that will eliminate MTBE as a gasoline additive on and after  
9 October 1, 2003. Not later than January 1, 2001, and annually thereafter  
10 through January 1, 2003, the commissioner shall report to the joint  
11 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
12 matters relating to the environment on how the elimination of MTBE  
13 will be achieved. Each report shall include a progress update on the

14 status of the regional efforts to reduce MTBE levels in gasoline.

15 (c) Beginning July 1, 2000, the Connecticut Petroleum Council, the  
16 National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, the Oxygenated  
17 Fuels Association, and the Independent Connecticut Petroleum  
18 Association, under the direction of the Commissioner of  
19 Environmental Protection, shall undertake an effective education  
20 campaign directed at all users of gasoline, including, but not limited  
21 to, homeowners, marine trades and businesses, about the proper  
22 handling of gasoline. Said campaign shall include, but not be limited  
23 to: (1) Warning at the point of sale about the proper handling of  
24 gasoline; (2) instructions on portable gasoline containers sold after July  
25 1, 2000, about the proper handling of gasoline; and (3) newspaper,  
26 radio and television information advertisements.

27 Sec. 3. Section 22a-438 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
28 subsection (d) as follows:

29 (NEW) (d) Any person who or municipality which wilfully or with  
30 criminal negligence discharges gasoline in violation of any provision of  
31 this chapter, shall be fined not more than fifty thousand dollars per  
32 day for each day of violation or be imprisoned not more than three  
33 years or both. A subsequent conviction for any such violation shall  
34 carry a fine of not more than one hundred thousand dollars per day for  
35 each day of violation or imprisonment for not more than ten years or  
36 both. For the purposes of this subsection, person includes any  
37 responsible corporate officer.

38 Sec. 4. Section 22a-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

40 The master of any ship, boat, barge or other vessel, or the person in  
41 charge of any terminal for the loading or unloading of any oil or  
42 petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products, or  
43 hazardous wastes, or the person in charge of any establishment, or the  
44 operator of any vehicle, trailer or other machine which by accident,  
45 negligence or otherwise causes the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled

46 loss, seepage or filtration of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or  
47 solid, liquid or gaseous products, or hazardous wastes which poses a  
48 potential threat to human health or the environment, shall  
49 immediately report to the commissioner such facts as the  
50 commissioner by regulation may require. Any such report shall  
51 include, but not be limited to, the location, the quantity and the type of  
52 substance, material or waste, the date and the cause of the discharge,  
53 spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration, the name and address  
54 of the owner of the ship, boat, barge or other vessel, terminal,  
55 establishment, vehicle, trailer or machine, and the name and address of  
56 the person making the report and his relationship to the owner. Any  
57 person who fails to make a report required by this section may be  
58 fined not more than one thousand dollars and the employer of such  
59 person may be fined not more than five thousand dollars, except that  
60 any person who fails to make a report relating to the discharge,  
61 spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of gasoline shall be  
62 fined not more than five thousand dollars and the employer of such  
63 person may be fined not more than ten thousand dollars.

64 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000."